

## SWEEPING REFORM IN WAR DEPARTMENT.

Secretary Root Issues Order to Stop Congressional Jobbery in Government Contracts.

### OUTGROWTH OF LITTAUER CASE

Members of Both Branches of Congress Prohibited From Going Security for Contractors Supplying Material for Army.

Washington, July 8.—Secretary Root has taken aggressive action to bar out congressional jobbers seeking army supply contracts in behalf of constituents or firms and corporations in which they have a pecuniary interest.

The first step in this direction is an order just issued by Secretary Root which prevents members of Congress from signing bonds or security for Government contractors. This sweeping reform contemplated at the War Department is directly due to the Litauer case.

Secretary Root is thoroughly aroused by the results of the Litauer investigation. It is not unlikely that the scope of the investigation will be extended to determine if there are any other contracts on file in the office of the Quartermaster General in which members of Congress were interested.

Colonel E. A. Garlington, Inspector General of the Department of the East, arrived here today, and was in conference with Secretary Root this morning. Inspector General Burton and Judge Advocate General Davis were also called into the office.

Inspector General Burton has been assigned to other work by the Secretary of War, and the investigation, therefore, will be conducted by the office of Colonel Garlington. He is only a few days in Philadelphia, where the Lyon bid was received, to New York and probably also to Gloucester.

CONGRESSIONAL JOBBERY.

But the most important development today was the determination of War Department officials to make an end to congressional jobbery in the award of army bids. During sessions of Congress the Secretary of War, the Quartermaster General and other executive officials are daily besieged by Senators and Representatives seeking to rush through contracts in behalf of their constituents. Not infrequently the members of Congress appear in behalf of jobbers and manufacturers of army supplies in which they have a financial interest, and very often the jobbers are only a few days away from securing the contract.

A notable instance of such undue influence exerted by members of Congress is afforded by the bid for the material to be used in the Cleveland public building. This is a \$500,000 contract. There were bids for the material from Ohio sandstone and granite bid was \$300,000 less than that for the Ohio sandstone. Senator Hanna appeared in behalf of the bid presented by the Cleveland stone company, of which Representative Jacob K. Sells, of Ohio, is president, and which provided sandstone for the army. Secretary Root's order restraining members of Congress from signing bonds or going security for contractors supplying material for the army, is regarded as the first of a series of measures which will be an effective stop to congressional influence.

Under Secretary Root's order, no bid made upon the merits of the bids and the recommendations of officials of the Quartermaster General's Department can be made until the character of the bids and securities. Despite this unvarying policy, Senators and Congressmen have endeavored to use their influence to have rejected bids given a new hearing.

EXAMINING LYON'S PAPERS.

This has been a practice for many years and it was against this evil that the old law of 1885 was aimed, but had fallen into disrepute and become a dead letter in later administrations. Secretary Root nevertheless proposed a new law which would give the law provided. A modification of the law provided that no objection to a member of Congress signing a bond for a contractor. But a new interpretation was given this law lately. It is held that if the contractor or jobber is a member of Congress, the law provides that the person signing the bond should fill the contract. This would make a member of Congress supply directly to the War Department.

Inspector General Garlington began the examination of the records of the Quartermaster General's Department today immediately after his conference with Secretary Root.

"I cannot say yet make any statement as to what my report will be to the Secretary," said Colonel Garlington today. "It is an immoderate rule in cases like this that any results may be directly conveyed to the Secretary."

Look for name and shield on the sole.

Wertheimer-Swarts Shoe Co.

ST. LOUIS.

Boone County Old Settlers.

Next meeting of Boone County Old Settlers' Association has been announced for Monday, August 10, to be held in Columbia, Mo.

## ST. LOUIS-BROWNSVILLE RAILROAD IS ASSURED.

First Line to Connect With Lower Rio Grande Valley.

### REPUBLICAN SPECIAL.

Brownsville, Tex., July 8.—Construction of the St. Louis-Brownsville and Mexico Railroad from a point on the Texas-Mexican Railroad to Brownsville is now assured. The cash bonus of \$40,000 is completely raised and the land bonus of 120,000 acres along the route of the proposed road is practically assured, 50 per cent being pledged already.

Trish Jett, president of the road, left here today for St. Louis to turn over the contract to the St. Louis Loan and Trust Company, which has the contract to build the road. The project includes a branch to the Rio Grande.

### NEW ILLINOIS LINE.

Believed It Is Being Backed by Gould Interests.

Incorporated under the title of the Toledo, St. Louis and New Orleans Railroad Company, local and foreign capitalists are pushing the construction of a road through Central Illinois with valuable connections, which as an ore and coal carrier will be a formidable competitor of the Illinois Central.

The survey has been completed on the line and it is expected that the work of construction will begin soon.

According to the present plans, it is proposed to run the line from the East, arriving here today, and was in conference with Secretary Root this morning. Inspector General Burton and Judge Advocate General Davis were also called into the office.

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Admitted to Naval Academy.

Two Missouri Youths Among Successful Candidates.

Appoints His Commissioner.

Mr. Alexandrowsky Will Have Charge of Russian Section.

Gen. Clay Declared Insane.

Action Taken, It Is Asserted, Merely to Protect Property.

Boone County Old Settlers.

## ROUND OF FEASTING FOR AMERICAN TARS.

While Admiral Cotton Goes to London, Those Remaining at Portsmouth Enjoy Life.

### WARM SPEECHES AT LUNCHEON

State Ball at British Club Will Be Followed by Another Entertainment at the Pilgrims' Club.

London, July 8.—Rear Admiral Cotton, Captain Hemphill of the United States flag ship Kearsarge and the other American officers who are to attend to-night's state ball at Buckingham Palace, arrived in London today, accompanied by Rear Admiral Milne, the representative of King Edward, and took up quarters at various hotels as guests of the nation. Subsequently in full uniform they paid a round of official visits.

The 1,500 American officers and men remaining at Portsmouth were entertained in various ways, including a luncheon at the Volunteer Rifle Hall, at which the Mayor presided. In toasting King Edward the Mayor said he believed his Majesty's efforts to promote friendship and good-will between Great Britain and other countries were fully appreciated by the United States.

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## LOUBET INSPECTS WINDSOR CASTLE.

Deposits Wreath on Tomb of Queen Victoria in the Course of a Busy Day.

### REVIEWS 16,000 SOLDIERS.

Bands Play "God Save the King" and the "Marseillaise"—Lord Lansdowne Gives Dinner to French President.

London, July 8.—Although M. Loubet did not retire until long after midnight, he arose at the usual hour, 6:30, and started on the long day of functions about 9 o'clock.

Accompanied by Foreign Minister Delcasse, Ambassador Cambon and his suite, the President proceeded to visit Windsor Castle.

He traveled in the King's train and was met at the railroad station by the Mayor and corporation of Windsor, who welcomed him to the royal borough.

On the arrival at the castle, escorted by Horse Guards, and inspected both the state and private apartments and visited the museum at Frogmore, where M. Loubet deposited a wreath on Queen Victoria's tomb. The presidential party subsequently returned to London.

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## PLEADED FOR HIS QUEUE.

Chinaman Thought Doctors Would Cut It Off.

### PIASA CHAUTAUQUA WILL HAVE LARGE ATTENDANCE.

Almost All the Cottages Are Open and Visitors Arrive on All Steamers and Trains.

Chautauqua, Ill., July 8.—The regular annual session of the Piasa Chautauqua will open to-morrow and continue until August 5. Already several hundred people are on the grounds and almost all the cottages are already open.

The 1,500 American officers and men remaining at Portsmouth were entertained in various ways, including a luncheon at the Volunteer Rifle Hall, at which the Mayor presided. In toasting King Edward the Mayor said he believed his Majesty's efforts to promote friendship and good-will between Great Britain and other countries were fully appreciated by the United States.

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